

COMMONWEALTH OF MASSACHUSETTS

DEPARTMENT OF TELECOMMUNICATIONS AND ENERGY

In the matter of:)

Sprint Communications Company L.P.)

)

Petition for Arbitration Pursuant to Section 252(b) of) D.T.E. 00-54

the Telecommunications Act of 1996 to Establish a New)

Interconnection Agreement with Verizon)

Massachusetts)

)

ASSENTED TO MOTION FOR EXTENSION OF TIME

Verizon New England Inc., d/b/a Verizon Massachusetts ("Verizon MA") hereby files this motion for an extension pursuant to 220 CMR 1.02(5). In support of its motion Verizon MA states as follows:

(1) On December 11, 2000, the Department entered a written decision and order addressing the issues that were the subject of arbitration in this docket. *See* Decision and Order, *Petition of Sprint Communications L.P., Pursuant to Section 252(b) of the Telecommunications Act of 1996, for Arbitration of An Interconnection Agreement Between Sprint and Verizon-Massachusetts*, D.T.E. 00-54 (December 11, 2000) ("Arbitration Decision").

(2) In the Arbitration Decision, the Department ordered the parties to incorporate the Department's determinations set forth therein into a final interconnection agreement containing both the negotiated and arbitrated terms and conditions and file that final interconnection agreement pursuant to Section 252(e)(1) of the Telecommunications Act of 1996 within 21 days. *See Arbitration Decision* at 22-23. Therefore, the parties are currently required to file the final interconnection agreement on or before January 2, 2001.

(3) Since the Arbitration Decision, the parties have worked diligently to prepare the final interconnection agreement and continue to do so. However, the parties need additional time beyond the current deadline (January 31, 2001) to work out the details of certain language in the interconnection agreement.

(4) Counsel for Sprint Communications L.P. has expressly authorized Verizon MA to represent that Sprint assents to this motion.

WHEREFORE, for all of the foregoing reasons, Verizon MA respectfully requests that the Commission grant its motion for an extension of the due date for its filing of the above referenced final interconnection agreement to March 5, 2001.

Respectfully submitted,

VERIZON NEW ENGLAND INC.

d/b/a VERIZON MASSACHUSETTS

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